

**[ REPUBLIC ACT NO. 1606, August 23, 1956 ]**

**AN ACT TO PROMOTE SCIENTIFIC, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH, INVENTION AND DEVELOPMENT.**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

SECTION 1. In order to promote scientific, engineering and technological research, invention, and development, the Government shall, in accordance with the provisions of this Act:

- a. Grant scholarships in science, engineering and technology for especially gifted citizens;
- b. Grant bonus and other financial aid to brilliant and deserving scientific, engineering and technological researchers;
- c. Give additional compensation to scientific, engineering and technological researchers employed in the Government who, for financial reasons, engage in teaching or in private business after office hours, subject to the condition that upon receiving such additional compensation, they shall no longer engage in teaching or in private business but shall devote themselves after office hours to scientific research and studies: *Provided*, That the faculty and other personnel of the University of the Philippines engaged in scientific engineering and technical research who are not authorized to teach outside or engage in private business shall be entitled to the additional compensation equivalent to that received by officials and personnel of other branches of the government of equivalent rank;
- d. Employ the services of recognized scientists, engineers and technologists for the purpose of training promising young scientists or researchers;
- e. Acquire all the necessary scientific, engineering or technical equipment and supplies which may be needed or conducting researchers;
- f. Enter into contract with private persons, firms and corporations in order for them to undertake any scientific, engineering and technological research, invention and development that can not be undertaken in the various laboratories, bureaus, offices, agencies and instrumentalities of the Government;
- g. Extend aids to research, travel grants; send participants to international conferences or congresses; hold International Scientific or Engineering and Technological Conferences and Congresses in the Philippines; and establish exchange of scientific, engineering and technological information with other countries;
- h. Establish an industrial research and training center in the University of the Philippines;
- i. Allocate funds provided in this. Act, over and above existing funds, to all existing and new research institutions of the government, for their expansion, improvement and establishment and for originating and continuing researches

therein; and with the following research agencies designated to undertake special research projects and requirements along the line laid down in the programs outlined in appendices "A", "B", "C", "D", "E", "F", "G" and "H" which are hereby made integral parts of this Act and/or such changes as the Board may from time to time decide.

1. The University of the Philippines Industrial Research and Training Center:  
(a) Textile Pilot plant, (b) pulp and paper pilot plant, (c) coconut products and by-products pilot plant, including fuel, and (d) industrial research building;
  2. The National Scientific and Industrial Research Institute (formerly Institute of Science and Technology): (a) improvement and expansion of the scientific library and laboratory facilities, equipment and personnel, (b) electro-metallurgy pilot plant, and (c) ceramics pilot plant;
  3. The University of the Philippines, College of Pharmacy (in cooperation with the College of Medicine, University of the Philippines and the National Museum) industrial development of drugs from Philippine medicinal plants;
  4. The Science Foundation of the Philippines (in cooperation with the National Education Board) : promotion of science consciousness among the students and the general public;
  5. The University of the Philippines, College of Agriculture (in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources) : (a) rice and corn breeding, (b) coffee and cacao varieties improvement and control of their diseases and other plant, and (c) livestock and poultry improvement;
  6. Institute of Nutrition: (a) intensification of nutrition researches and (b) nutrition surveys.
  7. Department of Health, Public Health Research Laboratories: (a) Antibiotics (in cooperation with the Bureau of Soil Conservation, College of Agriculture and College of Pharmacy, University of the Philippines), (b) tetanus toxoid, (c) human rabies immune plasma, (d) plasma expanders, and (e) preparation of plasma fraction and gamma globulins.
  8. Other new and necessary research projects.
- j. Perform other activities that will promote scientific, engineering and technological research, invention and development.

As used in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, the phrase "scientific, engineering and technological researchers" refer to those undertaking studies or investigations to acquire or discover new knowledge, principle, process or information relating to science, engineering or technology.

SEC. 2. The administration of the program provided for in this Act shall be vested in a National Science Board which is hereby created under the Office of the President to be composed of one representative each from the following: the National Research Council of the Philippines to be designated by the Executive Board of said council; the University of the Philippines to be designated by its President; the Science Foundation of the Philippines; the Institute of Science and Technology; the Philippine Association for the Advancement of Science; the Philippine Confederation of Professional Organizations; the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources; the Department of Health; the Department of Commerce and Industry;